

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

INFO WHITE HOUSE

S E C R E T STATE 051144

NODIS

FOR AMBASSADOR WHITEHOUSE AND CHARGE CORCORAN;WH/BRZEZINSKI

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, OREP, LA, TB, VN

SUBJECT: ARRANGEMENTS FOR PROPOSED VISIT OF PRESIDENTIAL
COMMISSION

1. PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION WHICH WILL VISIT HANOI MARCH
16-19 WILL TRAVEL IN A U.S. MILITARY AIRPLANE. TYPE OF
MILITARY AIRCRAFT TO BE USED HAS NOT YET BEEN DECIDED.

2. IF LAO ACCEPT OUR PROPOSAL THAT COMMISSION VISIT
VIENTIANE AFTER VISIT TO HANOI, WE WOULD SUGGEST FOLLOWING
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

LV HANOI MORNING MARCH 19

AR BANGKOK NOON MARCH 19

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LV BANGKOK AFTERNOON MARCH 20

AR VIENTIANE LATE AFTERNOON MARCH 20

MARCH 21 - MEETINGS WITH LAO OFFICIALS

LV VIENTIANE AFTERNOON MARCH 21 FOR CLARK FIELD.

3. FOR CHARGE CORCORAN VIENTIANE: YOU SHOULD NOW INFORM
LAO AUTHORITIES THAT VISIT TO HANOI MARCH 16-19 IS FIRM

AND THAT VIETNAMESE OFFICIALS HAVE AGREED TO USE OF U.S. MILITARY AIRCRAFT FOR VISIT. IF LAO AUTHORITIES INQUIRE, YOU MAY INFORM THEM OF OUR SUGGESTION FOR SCHEDULE FOR PROPOSED VISIT TO VIENTIANE. OTHERWISE, YOU SHOULD BRING SUGGESTED SCHEDULE TO THEIR ATTENTION WHEN THEY REPLY TO OUR PROPOSAL FOR VISIT IF REPLY IS FAVORABLE. IF LAO ACCEPT VISIT, WE WILL NEED FLIGHT CLEARANCES FOR OVER-FLIGHT OF LAOS FROM HANOI TO BANGKOK AND FOR TRIP ITSELF, AND WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED ON TYPE OF PLANE AND SCHEDULE AS THIS IS WORKED OUT. IF COMMISSION OVERNIGHTS IN VIENTIANE, PLANE AND CREW WOULD PROBABLY RETURN TO BANGKOK AND REMAIN THERE UNTIL COMMISSION SCHEDULED TO LEAVE VIENTIANE. WE WILL ATTEMPT TO GET LAO VISAS HERE FOR COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF BEFORE THEIR DEPARTURE, BUT WILL LIKELY BE UNABLE TO GET VISAS FOR CREW. SINCE CREW WOULD PROBABLY NOT OVERNIGHT IN VIENTIANE AND NEED NOT LEAVE WATTAY AIRPORT, WE HOPE ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE MADE TO LET THEM IN AND OUT WITHOUT VISAS. PLEASE LET US KNOW AFTER LAO RESPONSE IF LAO WILL AGREE TO WAIVE VISAS FOR CREW. WOULD WELCOME YOUR SUGGESTIONS ON HOUSING 5 COMMISSIONERS AND APPROXIMATELY 10 STAFF MEMBERS IN VIENTIANE IF COMMISSION OVERNIGHTS THERE. END FYI.

4. FOR AMBASSADOR WHITEHOUSE, BANGKOK: SCHEDULE IS STILL TENTATIVE AND IS FYI ONLY. WE WILL INFORM YOU ASAP IF COMMISSION WILL BE VISITING VIENTIANE AND BANGKOK AND ADVISE OF ARRANGEMENTS WE WILL NEED. SEPTTEL ADDRESSES SUBJECT YOU RAISED IN BANGKOK 5023.

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